

REMARKS:

The above amendments and following remarks are responsive to the points raised in the November 24, 2004 non-final Office Action. Upon entry of the above amendments, Claims 26-34 will have been canceled, new Claims 35-66 will have been added, and Claims 35-66 will be pending. Claims 26-34 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, in favor of newly added Claims 35-66. No new matter has been introduced. Entry and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement Filed August 27, 2000

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner acknowledge and consider Japanese patent document JP7-72454, filed March 17, 1995, cited by Applicants in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) previously filed with the USPTO on August 27, 2003. Applicants also request that the Examiner return a copy of the initialed, dated, and signed Form PTO-1449 identifying the cited JP7-72454 reference.

Copies of the August 27, 2003 IDS, Form PTO-1449, JP7-72454 with English language Abstract, and the date stamped post card receipt accompany the present Amendment for the Examiner's convenience. A subsequent IDS, which was filed on June 15, 2004, has already been considered by the Examiner.

Response to Claim Objection

Claim 30 has been objected to on the basis that Claim 30, “at Line 2, ‘the of image’ should be changed to ‘of the image’”.

Applicants have canceled Claim 30. Accordingly, the claim objection should be withdrawn.

Response to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 28-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, “as failing to comply with the written description requirement.”

Claims 28-34 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, should be withdrawn

Response to rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 27, 33, and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, “as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.”

Claims 27, 33, and 34 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, should be withdrawn

Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable US Patent 6,392,717 to Kunzman. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Newly added independent Claims 35, 45, and 55 recite an image display apparatus (Claims 35 and 45) and a display apparatus (Claim 55), which inter alia, includes:

“a filter that is adapted to be moved into or out of an optical path of the first color, purity of the first color being varied in between a state in which the filter is in the optical path of the first color and a state in which the filter is off the optical path of the first color” (Claim 35);

“a filter that is adapted to be moved into or out of an optical path of the first color, purity of the first color is rendered a first purity when the filter is in the optical path of the first color and purity of the first color is rendered a second purity that is lower than the first purity when the filter is off the optical path of the first color” (Claim 45) and,

“wherein purity of at least one color out of said colors is varied by moving a filter into or out of an optical path of said at least one color and wherein the image signal of the other one color different from said at least one color for driving said display element is changed in accordance with variation of the purity of said at least one color” (Claim 55).

Applicants respectfully submit that Kunzman does not teach or suggest an image display apparatus, as recited in newly added independent Claims 35 and 45, and the display apparatus, as recited in newly added Claim 55. In particular, Kunzman does not teach or suggest (1) a filter adapted to be moved into and out of an optical path of the first color to vary or render color purity.

In contrast, the display system disclosed by Kunzman utilizes a rotating color wheel (18) that includes red, blue, green, and clear filters to control the brightness for all areas of an image so that dark areas are made to appear more correctly without washing out bright areas. Kunzman discloses that white light from the lamp (14) passes through both the filters of the calibrated rotating color wheel (18) and the relay optics (26) prior to impinging the active portion of the spatial light modulator array (28). Electronics (24) evaluate the image projected upon the modulator array (28) and match the events of the color wheel (18) to the operation of the

modulator array (28) to produce the desired final image. Regardless of the operation mode of the Kunzman display system, none of the filters of the color wheel are omitted from placement in the optical path. In other words, Kunzman does not disclose that an image signal of one color is corrected in accordance with in and out placement of the filter for changing purity of the color in the optical path. As such, the display apparatus recited in Claims 35, 45, and 55 is distinguished over the applied reference of Kunzman. Likewise, newly added dependent Claims 36-44, 46-54, and 56-66 are distinguished over Kunzman for at least the same reasons as their respective independent Claim 35, 45, and 55 discussed above. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that newly added Claims 35-66 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect to earnestly solicited.

AUTHORIZATIONS:

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required for the timely consideration of this amendment, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4621.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: February 24, 2005

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